

Christ the King Abbey

(Traditional Benedictines)

(St Francis of Assisi Chapel)

www.christthekingabbey.org

Cullman, Alabama

Every Sunday: 6:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Daily: 6:00 AM

Holy Days of Obligation:

6:00 AM - 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel

Montgomery, Alabama

10:45 AM

Only on first Sunday
of each month

St Pius V Chapel

Birmingham, Alabama

9:30 AM

Every Sunday except
first Sunday of each month

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 5, 2006 – Purple

Mass of Sunday; no Gl; Cr; Pref. Lent

Weekly Bulletin #925

~ LENT ~

??? AN EYE FOR AN EYE ???

*“Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust consumes.”*

When we learn that force is not the answer to force; when we learn that argument is not the answer to argument; when we learn that revenge is not the answer to injury; when we learn that the “cold shoulder treatment” is not the answer to real or imagined offense; when we learn that human fury is not the answer to human fury; when we learn that striking back is not the answer to personal attack; then, and only then, will peace come to the heart of man, and to the world – NEVER until then! So long as **self** is fostered and pampered and catered to, so long will evil abound, wars will never end, and the heart of man will forever suffer torture and fear and suspicion and distrust and unrest. Why is it that we all seem to forget (or ignore) the words of our Beloved Savior: “... love your enemies, do good to them that hurt you, bless them that curse you, and pray for those that calumniate you.” This admonition of our Blessed Lord does not mean that He expects us to feel a caressing affection for our enemy, but that we are to pray for him and his salvation and forgive his offenses against us, leaving his fate in the hands of God. Mercy and compassion must always be the passwords of our lives. We must not elbow our way through life, running roughshod over anyone and everyone who stands in our way.

All men are responsible for their every deed – good or bad, for their every word – good or bad, for their every thought – good or bad. An accounting must be given for every thought, word, and deed. This may come as a sobering thought to many of us. It is, however, an inescapable certainty. It is not an old-fashioned, medieval thought pattern hanging over our heads to torment the serenity of freelance modern man.

All men must give proper understanding and importance to the desire which Christ has in His Divine and Loving Heart for all men – their salvation. Therefore the whole and entire design of the life of EVERYMAN must be to accumulate the treasure, not of time (for this life) but of eternity. To do this we must love God (and Him alone) and serve God (and Him alone) and nobody else on earth and before nothing else on earth, regardless of who or what it may be. This admonition is not just for religious (priests and monks and nuns). It is, whether we like it or not, for every man, woman, and child! It is a basic mistake to let the exigencies of the world affect our moral decisions. If God feeds the birds of the air and clothes the flowers of the field more richly than Solomon in all his glory, His earthly children must have complete confidence in Him and trust that He will feed and care for them even more so.

The glorious realization of this awesome thought should give great consolation to those of us whose determined will and commitment give love and belief and hope and adoration and glory to the One True God. God’s holy grace flows freely into the heart of one who strives earnestly to keep our true and holy Catholic Faith in his heart and mind and soul. Undoubtedly God’s holy angels stand guard around the one who walks undaunted through the gunfire of untruth! Woe to those, regardless of who they may be, and regardless of however exalted a position they may hold in this life, whose minds do not correspond with the reality of **Truth!** Woe to those who propose that Truth is subject to and must adjust itself to the needs of changing times. Truth is Truth and does not ever change, and no one alive can force it to!